

60130-1803
02MRA0221**REMARKS**

Claims 9-12 and 22-25 are objected to as depending upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form to include the features of base claim 7 and intervening claim 8. Claims 10-12 depend on claim 9 and are also allowable. Claim 22 has been rewritten in independent form to include the features of base claim 16 and intervening claim 17. Claims 23-25-12 depend on claim 9 and are also allowable.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 13, 16-18 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanimoto (U.S. Patent No. 6,070,923). Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 13, 15-17 and 26 have been cancelled, and claim 18 has been amended to depend on allowable claim 22.

Claim 16 has been amended to recite a vehicle door latch. Claim 16 is not anticipated by Tanimoto. Tanimoto does not disclose a vehicle door latch including an inertia device that is part of the vehicle door latch. Tanimoto discloses an outside door handle assembly for a vehicle including a handle lever 9 positioned between an outside handle 5 and an opening lever 18 of a latch 19. The Examiner contends that the handle lever 9 is an inertia device. However, the handle lever 9 is not a part of the latch 19 as claimed, but instead is used to actuate the opening lever 18 that actuates the latch 19, as further shown in Figure 7. The latch 19 does not include the handle lever 9. Tanimoto does not disclose the claimed invention, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Thus, claims 9-12, 16, 18 and 22-25 are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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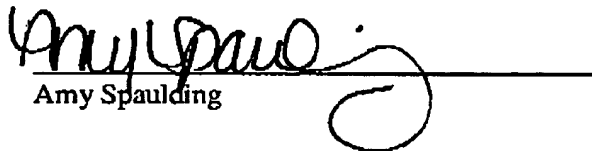
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, (703) 872-9306 on March 14, 2005.


Amy Spaulding